

CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, May 2, 2011
The Center of Clayton - Multipurpose Room C

The following members were present:

Ira Berkowitz	Rosemary Hardy
Brad Bernstein	Jessie Hoagland
Mimi Deem	Eric Schneider
Judy Goodman	Mark Winings

Excused/Absent

Marguerite Garrick
Omri Praiss

Also present:

Patty DeForrest	Jason Quinton
Eric Gruenenfelder	Sarah Umlauf
Patrick Magee	

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the April 4, 2011 meeting were approved as read.

Address from the Audience: Clayton resident, Dr. Myron Jacobs, read a letter to the Commission about his concerns with lap swimming availability at Shaw Park Aquatic Center (SPAC). Mr. Jason Quinton, Aquatic Supervisor, presented a detailed report about lap swimming at SPAC. He reviewed statistics about the history of lap swimming and talked about present lap swimming hours, lap lane availability and season pass holder survey data. The material provided to the Commission and Dr. Jacobs was discussed at length. The following consensus was made by the Commission: a test will be implemented which will entail opening one lap lane to residents only from 5:30 am-9:00 am Monday through Friday, if Clayton Shaw Park Swim Team and Masters Swimmers agree to relinquish a lap lane during their rental time.

Historic Martin F. Hanley House Update: Ms. Sarah Umlauf, Community Resource Coordinator, presented the Hanley House update. Ms. Umlauf spoke about the programs at the Hanley House and said she has developed a new program for residents at assisted living facilities. Barnes Jewish and Sunrise Senior Living Center participated in tea programs at the house. Further, Ms. Umlauf stated that profit from herb sale was \$350; they sold out of herbs and this year tours were also included in conjunction with the herb sale. Upcoming program highlights include: CSD student programs, free teacher workshops, and preschool through high school educational tours with specific historical topics, (such as discussions about the Civil War).

The Hanley House received a grant from the Missouri Historical Records Grant program to digitize the Hanley Day Book. Through the Conservation Assessment Program the Hanley House is eligible to receive over \$1,700 in federal funds.

The amount of visitors at the Hanley House is doubling each year. The goal is to break the attendance mark, by having over one thousand visitors this year – in the first quarter 600 individuals have already toured the house.

Director's Report - Hanley Park Pavilion: The Hanley Park Pavilion design has been repositioned because residents felt like the pavilion was facing the wrong direction. It appears to take up less room when it is facing the road and not the back of the park. The pavilion is 20% smaller than the original design; however the Home Depot storage unit will still be removed from the park.

Mr. Berkowitz made a motion to accept the design of the Hanley Park Pavilion as presented. Rosemary Hardy seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Dog Park Survey Update: Ms. DeForrest informed the Commission that neither of the possible locations for a Dog Park came to fruition. Ms. DeForrest is exploring the possibility of having a professional company conduct a Dog Park survey. The Board of Alderman wants an outside company to handle the

survey process so it is more statistically accurate. Also, when staff compiles survey data it may affect the validity of the results. The quotes are between \$6,500 and \$8,000, so the BOA will make the determination on whether to move forward with the survey based on the cost.

Platform Tennis: Ms. DeForrest informed the Commission about a group of residents who discussed the idea of bringing the sport of platform tennis to the Clayton community. Platform tennis is an outdoor sport which is played on a court half the size of a standard court and is the perfect size for children. The idea is that since platform tennis is a winter sport, having a new tennis court near the ice rink would be a good fit. The group interested in building the courts would pay to build them. Further discussion will take place during the June meeting.

Event Update: Ms. DeForrest reminded the Commission about the many events taking place in the City of Clayton throughout the month of May. She also mentioned that Clayton Community Day would be held at The Center of Clayton on May 7, in conjunction with National Government week.

Financial Report: 2nd Quarter Variance Report – Overall the budget is in good shape. Ms. DeForrest stated that the important thing to remember when reviewing the budget is: \$1,500,000 was moved from the capital budget into the operating budget. There is a \$40,000 improvement in the budget because the City has not incurred any large maintenance expenses. The City is under revenue since one group at Oak Knoll Park is operating under the old rental agreement and the other group is paying to the new rental fees. The Tennis Center revenue is lower because program numbers are down and staff is working on streamlining things with our tennis pros. Youth sports revenue is stellar. Fitness revenue for outdoor programming is down a little due to the fact that enrollment in Boot Camp has declined slightly.

New Business / Old Business: There is no new or old business to report.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Denise Ucinski